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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 41

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

FERNANDO R. MACIAS

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDY THE  
FEASIBILITY OF REQUIRING A SPECIFIED NUMBER OF PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION MINUTES IN THE SCHOOL DAY AND REQUIRING THAT EACH  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAVE AN APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS IN EACH SCHOOL IN THE STATE.

WHEREAS, enrollment in the state's elementary schools  
continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, despite the growth in elementary school  
enrollment, few additional physical education instructors have  
been hired; and

WHEREAS, much of the physical education instruction  
happening in the state's elementary schools is being done by  
classroom teachers and their assistants; and

WHEREAS, physical education in the schools contributes to

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1 the mental and physical well-being of students; and

2 WHEREAS, it is very important to instill the need for  
3 physical activity at an early age; and

4 WHEREAS, research suggests that repetitive, rhythmic,  
5 patterned, large muscle movement has positive effects on the  
6 rate at which students, especially those with developmental  
7 delay, learn to read and write; and

8 WHEREAS, the relationship between healthy human growth and  
9 physical activity is well documented; and

10 WHEREAS, physical exercise is an important component in the  
11 growth of healthy tissue, organs and bones and lowers the risk  
12 of developing disease or disorders in children that may limit  
13 their functional capacity both physically and mentally; and

14 WHEREAS, a teacher who allocates time for physical  
15 education instruction during the school day benefits the  
16 students and the classroom in that students are generally more  
17 attentive and willing to learn;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public  
20 education study the feasibility of requiring a specified number  
21 of physical education minutes in the school day and requiring  
22 every elementary school in the state to have an appropriate  
23 number of physical education instructors; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 FIRST SESSION, 1997

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5  
6 March 11, 1997

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8 Mr. President:

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10 Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

11  
12 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 41

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
15 recommendation that it DO PASS.  
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18 Respectfully submitted,

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23 Cynthia Nava, Chairman  
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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

No: 0

Excused: Duran, Garcia, Gorham

Absent: None

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**State of New Mexico**  
**House of Representatives**

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**FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST SESSION, 1997**

**March 21, 1997**

**Mr. Speaker:**

**Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred**

**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 41**

**has had it under consideration and reports same with  
recommendation that it DO PASS.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman**

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 9 For 0 Against

Yes: 9

Excused: Nicely, Trujillo, S.M Williams, W.C. Williams

Absent: None

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